



June 2024

THE CALL

St. Thomas More Fraternity, Secular Franciscan Order

From Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel

Minister: Andrea Bender, OFS; Vice Minister: Sita Chakrawarti, OFS; Secretary: Thomas Bender, OFS; Treasurer: Ann Wester, OFS; Formation Director: Janette Martin, OFS; Councilors-at-Large: Ann Corro, OFS, Michael Landrigan, OFS

Meeting – 1:30 p.m. - Sunday, June 9, 2024 - *Change in Time and Place - Reception for outgoing/incoming parochial vicars for OLOL will be in the main parish hall after the Noon Mass. We are invited to attend. We will meet downstairs at 1:30 p.m. to permit us to attend the reception.*

- We are collecting bath towels for the homeless.
- *Opening Prayer* – Ritual, p. 35.
- *Ongoing Formation* – We will be discussing Reflection 4 in *To Live as Francis Lived*
- *Fellowship*
- *Business Meeting*
- *Liturgy of the Hours* – Evening Prayer II for the Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 - Psalms, Short Reading and Intercessions from the Psalter Week II
 - Magnificat Antiphon and Closing Prayer from the Proper of Seasons for the Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 - Hymn TBD. Please bring your breviary and hymnal.
- *Closing Prayers* – Ritual, p. 36.

Remote Access to the Monthly Meeting Info

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85418000041?pwd=d0pFSDREaDJmdjZpNWlqbII4T20rZz09>

Meeting ID: 854 1800 0041

Passcode: 668951

Dial by your location

Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 854 1800 0041

Passcode: 668951

Minister's Notes

This month I am focusing on the duties of the fraternity treasurer. They guard contributions received, recording them in the appropriate register (With changes in the tax law the Fraternity simplified this process suggesting that if you needed a record of

your contributions please write a check We tried this on a trial basis 5 years ago-no complaints yet.) The treasurer also records items of expense specifying the date and purpose in conformity with the directions of the Fraternity Council. The treasurer renders an account of his or her administration to the assembly and to the Council of the fraternity. If you are not

currently serving on the Council, which of the roles do you see yourself helping with. Talk to the fraternity member currently in that role before the August meeting.

The Church celebrated the feast of St. Matthias in May. As Randy and I sat down together to pray the Office, I wondered if the intercession claiming that the apostles were the first to see the risen Christ would be included. It was, and it came after a scripture reading that featured Mary Magdalene and Christ. So much for planned thought through liturgy. This is what happens when different groups concentrate on different parts. The same kind of thing happened at the ordination of transitional deacons this year. It was a well put together multipage program. The gospel acclamation was a Lenten one. The ordination in 2023 happened in Lent and no one caught and changed it before the printer. We still sang Alleluia.

The odd intercession wasn't the thing that really struck me at that Morning Prayer. We were praying Daniel 3. It ends with Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Let us praise and exalt him above all forever... I caught myself thinking let us praise and exalt *them* forever. That fed prayer for about a week. Why them, rather why not them? It is an affirmation of the Trinity. But why did I think "them" other than being tired that morning. I think the

Prayer Intentions

For...

- Peace in the Holy Land and the Middle East and the victims of the violence.
- Peace in Ukraine and protection for her Ukrainian and Ruthenian Rite Catholics.
- Grace Coipuram, OFS
- Patricia Kennedy, mother of Joseph Kennedy, OFS who is recovering from congestive heart failure.
- Virginia Roccapriore, widow of Joseph Roccapriore, OFS.
- For Marie, cousin of Anne Pastorkovich, OFS, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Louis, son of Clarissa, of STM Parish, for depression.
- For the repose of the soul of Kathleen Gardiner from April's Magnificat Class.
- The sister of a friend of April, who does not want her sister to pray for her.

text from Daniel clearly is talking about collective beings; birds of the air does not refer to a specific bird. There wasn't just one holy man. We have gone through an entire passage of collective nouns when we hit the doxology praising the Trinity, which is singular. Singular in two ways, as opposed to plural and something that stands out by itself. That is why we call it a mystery.

Thinking them helped me focus on him, one God. Back to Alleluia. Now that we are in Ordinary time, the Church can manage to get a sentence out without Alleluia, though I am not sure they can get three sentences out without an Alleluia. In Ordinal time Randy frequently finds himself adding the Alleluia that I have dropped.

Today we collect towels for the homeless. Thanks to Ann Wester for offering to deliver them. Next month, July, we will collect children's socks. Being a grandparent gives me an appreciation for the escape plans of single socks in the wash, particularly the smaller size socks. Our Mother of Light can use children's socks.

Pax et Bonum,

Andrea

- April's friend, whose husband avoids Church, and his ex-wife who never went to Church.
- For the families of the works killed in the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse.
- The Poor Holy Souls in Purgatory.
- Religious freedom and for all persecuted for their belief in God.
- Prisoners, sick, poor, hungry, lonely, homeless, unemployed and those with no one to pray for them.
- The health, protection and guidance of all priests and bishops including Pope Francis.
- The union of all Christians.
- For vocations to all branches of the Franciscan family.

Professions

6/08/1980 - Plunkett, Christine (Christine)
Olszewski, Ronald

6/12/1983 – Coipuram, Grace (Claire)
Kennedy, Joseph C (Joseph)
Landrigan, Michael (John)

6/08/1985 - Gill, Angela (Angela Merici)
Lisbeth, Terrence L (Bl. Robert
Southwell)

6/13/1992 - Martin, Janette (Bernadette)

6/10/1995 - Wester, Ann
Palasek, Ralph (Brother Leo)

Birthdays of the Month

June

Sita Chakrawarti (7th)

July

Ann Wester (9th)
Angela Gill (12th)
Patrick Birello (12th)
Joseph Kennedy (16th)

Necrology

Teresa H Bullock – June 1991

Edmund J Fitzgerald – June 18, 1999

John H Conroy – June 29, 1999

Adeline Ambury – June 12, 2001

Connie Cobado – June 3, 2018

Secretary's Note

I am still plugging for Chapter of Mat. The Registration info is on Page 4. You can also contact Sita or myself if you have any questions. The Fraternity is offering to subsidize the event over the deposit amount. Please contact Andrea if you want the subsidy.

The 2024Mats Planning Committee would like all Seculars in the Region to pray for the success of this chapter and our prayer for the Chapter of Mats is on page 3.

I stumbled upon what I think is an edifying homily by Cardinal Stafford about Rivo Torto on page 7.

Peace and Good, Randy

PRAYER FOR THE ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA REGIONAL CHAPTER OF MATS

September 6-8, 2024

Most high and glorious God,
we ask for your blessing
upon our upcoming Chapter of Mats.

We thank you for our call to live the Gospel
following the example of our Seraphic Father Francis.

We thank you for those who have gone before us,
who preserved our charism throughout the centuries.

We thank you for our current leaders,
who serve us and help us to grow in our understanding
of our vocation.

And we thank you for future leaders,
the shepherds that are to come.

We ask you to send down your Holy Spirit upon us as
we journey toward our 2024 Chapter of Mats.

Prepare all of us, Lord, as we ask
for fraternal Love to love as you love;
Humility to listen to one another;
Wisdom to see the future you would have us build;
Courage to follow your direction; and
Grace to spread seeds of goodness and joy throughout
our time at Chapter and beyond.

Lord, as we anticipate coming together to celebrate
Where we were, where we are, and where we are called
to be as Secular Franciscans,
let us remember to see and treat all
“...as a gift of the Lord and an image of Christ.”¹

And so we pray,
Holy God, draw us together as a community,
take charge of our Chapter of Mats,
and lead us into the future.

Father, we adore you and give you all
praise, honor, and glory,
Through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
In union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

St. Margaret of Cortona 2024 OFS Chapter of Mats

Registration is NOW OPEN for our September 6-8, 2024 Chapter of Mats to be held at the Beautiful Claggett Center in Adamstown, Maryland. Under the theme of The Next 800 Years, we will explore where we have been, where we are now, and where we are going.

How are we as Secular Franciscans poised to bring Christ to our world?
What unique gifts do we have to offer?

Deadlines: *Deposit:* \$150.00 *Due with registration*
Full remaining balance Based on housing selection: *Due by August 1, 2024*

Note: Full refunds are available until July 15, feast of St. Bonaventure. After July 15, all reservations are final and non-refundable.

Housing Options: Remaining options will include double hotel-like rooms with private baths in the Christiane Inn, in close proximity to the dining room and meeting rooms. Accommodations are also available in cottages, downhill from the dining and meeting space. Cottages have two twin beds per room and shared baths down the hall. The Commuter Option is now available. The cost is \$150 and includes all meals, liturgies, and group sessions for all three days. Please consider requesting financial assistance for overnight housing if you are choosing this option due to cost.

Event Costs: All meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast) and registration fees are included in the cost of the rooms and the commuter fee. The lodging cost is based on the type of housing selected from the options below. There are no additional fees.

Lodging Options:

- Inn – double room/2 queen beds for 2 persons (\$275 per person) – roommate may be designated or assigned
- Inn – double room/2 queen beds for three persons (\$230 per person) – must designate roommates
- Inn – double room/2 queen beds for four persons (\$210 per person) – must designate roommates
- Cottage – two twin beds per room for 2 persons (\$235 per person) – roommate may be designated or assigned (no single rooms in cottages)
- Commuter fee – meals, liturgies, and group sessions for all three days (\$150 per person)

Payment Options:

Payment can be made via check or credit card (subject to 3.5% fee).

• Checks should be made payable to St. Margaret of Cortona Region, and mailed to Randy Bender, 929 North Danville St. Arlington, VA 22201-1921.

• If you wish to pay by credit card (with additional 3.5% fee), mark that box on the registration form and you will receive an invoice and payment instructions from Randy Bender.

To enhance the participation of all our brothers and sisters, disability and dietary accommodations, and language interpretation/translation will be available throughout the Chapter of Mats. Please indicate your requests on the registration form.

To Register, Click here for fillable form: <https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Registration-Foirm-Revised.pdf>

If you have any questions or need help with registering, email Randy Bender at benderclan@verizon.net and to Janice Benton at jbentonsfo@gmail.com.

For More Info: <https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-Chapter-of-Mats-Flyer-Rev.-06.03.2024.pdf.pdf>

Saints of the Month

<https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/Franciscan-Saints-2022-1-Catalog-by-Mary-Lou-Coffman-OFS.pdf>

June 2

St. Felix of Nicosia, Friar, Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin (November 5, 1715-May 31, 1787)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Felix_of_Nicosia

Bl. John Pelingotto, Secular Franciscan Order (1240-Jun 3 1, 1304)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giovanni_Pelingotto

June 3

Bl. Andrew of Spello, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (November 30, 1194-June 3, 1254)

<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/blessed-andrew-of-spello.html>

June 5

Bl. Pacific of Cerano, Priest, First Order Franciscan (1424-June 4, 1482)

<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/blessed-pacific-of-cerano.html>

June 7

Bl. Humiliana Cerchi, Third Order Secular (1219-May 19, 1246)

<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/blessed-humiliana-cerchi.html>

June 8

Bl. Nicholas of Gèsturi, Lay Brother, Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin (August 4, 1882-June 8, 1958)

https://www.capuchin.org/saints_blessed/blessed-nicholas-of-gesturi

June 12

Bl. Florida Cevoli, Poor Clare Capuchin (November 11, 1685-June 12, 1767)

<https://www.santaveronicagiuliani.it/blessed-florida-cevoli/?lang=en>

108 Blessed Polish Martyrs, Bl. Antoninus Bajewski, priest, and companions, martyrs (Pius Bartosik, Innocent Guz, Achille Puchala, Herman Stepien, priests; Timothy Troianowski, Boniface Zukowski, religious 1st Order)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/108_Martyrs_of_World_War_II

June 17

St. Albert Chmielowski, Third Order Secular, Founder, Brothers of the Third Order of Saint Francis, Servants to the Poor (August 20, 1845-December 25, 1916)

<http://saintsresource.com/albert-chmielowski/>

Bl. Peter Gambacorti, Founder, Third Order Secular (1355-1435)

<https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/peter-gambacorti-of-pisa.html>

June 18

Bl. Guy of Cortona, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (d. May 12, 1250)

<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/blessed-guy-of-cortona.html>

June 19

Bl. Margaretha Flesch, Foundress, Franciscan Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Angels (February 24, 1826-March 25, 1906)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaretha_Flesch

June 20

Bl. Michelina of Pesaro, Third Order Secular (1300-1356)

<https://vitaesanctorum.wordpress.com/2016/06/20/blessed-michelina-of-pesaro/>

Bls. Patrick O'Healy, Conrad O'Rourke, Conor O'Devany, and John Hearney, Friars Minor, Irish Martyrs

https://www.ouririshheritage.org/content/archive/people/101_mayo_people/religion/blessed_patrick_o_healy

June 22

St. Thomas More, Third Order Secular, Martyr of England (February 7, 1478-July 6, 1535)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_More

June 23

St. Joseph Cafasso, Priest, Third Order Secular (January 15, 1811-June 23, 1860)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Cafasso

June 26

Bl. Blessed Andrea Giacinto Longhin, Bishop, Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin
(November 22, 1863-June 26, 1936)

https://www.capuchin.org/saints_blessed/blessed-andrea-giacinto-longhin/

Bl. Jacob El-Haddad of Ghazir, Priest and Founder, Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin
(February 1, 1875-June 26, 1954)

https://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/2008/ns_lit_doc_20080622_haddad_en.html

June 27

Bl. Davanzato of Poggibonzi, Priest, Third Order Regular (c. 1200-July 7, 1295)

<https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/blessed-davanzato-of-poggibonzi.html>

St. Marguerite Bays, Third Order Secular (September 8, 1815-June 27, 1879)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marguerite_Bays

June 28

St. Vincenta Gerosa, Third Order Secular before founding another order
(October 29, 1784-June 29, 1847)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vincenza_Gerosa

June 30

Bl. Raymond Lull, Martyr, Third Order Secular (c. 1232-c. 1315)

<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/blessed-raymond-lull.html>

July 1

St. Junipero Serra, Priest, Alcantarine Friars Minor, missionary (November 24, 1713-August 28, 1784)

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/franciscan-spirit-blog/the-franciscan-saints-junipero-serra/>

Blesseds Marcello Maruzzo, Friar OFM (23 July 1929 – 1 July 1981) and Luis Navarro, OFS
(21 June 1950 – 1 July 1981) Martyrs of Guatemala

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcello_Maruzzo_and_Luis_Navarro

July 3

Bl. Marie Anne Fontcuberta, Foundress, Franciscan Missionaries of the Mother of the Divine Shepherd
(January 13, 1827-July 3, 1886)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peregrina_Mogas_Fontcuberta

July 4

St. Elizabeth of Portugal, Third Order Secular (1271-1336)

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Elizabeth-of-Portugal>

St. John Zhang Huan, Martyr, Franciscan seminarian (August 1838-July 9, 1900)

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/religion/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/zhang-huan-john-st>

Bl. Modestino of Jesus and Mary, Priest, OFM of the Alcantarines (September 9, 1802-July 4, 1854)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domenico_Mazzarella

St. Peter Zhang Banniu, Martyr, Secular Franciscan (1849-August 1838-July 9, 1900)

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/religion/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/zhang-banniu-peter-st>

July 8

Ss. Gregory Grassi, Hermine Grivot and Companions, First Order and Third Order Religious and
Secular Franciscans, Martyrs of China (d. 1900)

<https://stevenwood.com/reflections/franciscan/0708-1042.htm>

July 9

Bl. Marija of Jesus Crucified Petković, Foundress, Third Order Regular
(December 10, 1892-July 9, 1966)

https://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20030606_petkovic_en.html

July 9 (Cont.)

11 Martyrs of Damascus, Eight Franciscan Friars and Three Maronite Laymen (July 9, 1860)

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/religion/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/damascus-martyrs>

St. Nicholas Pieck and Companions: Anthony Hornaer, Anthony of Weert, Cornelius, Francis, Godfrey, Jerome, Nicasius, Peter, Theodoric, Willehad, Martyrs of Holland (d. 1572)

<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11065b.htm>

St. Veronica Giuliani, Capuchin Poor Clare (December 27, 1660-July 9, 1727)

<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/saint-veronica-giuliani.html>

Homily given by Cardinal James Francis Stafford, Major Penitentiary, at Mass at Rivo Torto, Assisi, on the occasion of the feast of the "Pardon of Assisi", 4 August 2009.

Each of the founders of Religious Orders had favorite ways of addressing his followers. St Benedict of Norcia, the founder of the Benedictines, addressed the followers of his Rule as "sons". In the Prologue of the Rule, St Benedict writes, "Listen carefully, my son, to the master's instruction". In fact in the Prologue alone, St Benedict uses the word for "son" or its plural 10 times in addressing monks. St Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit Order, addressed his followers as "companions". The word "companion" is derived from two Latin words, "cum" meaning "with", and "panis" which means "bread" — i.e., "eating bread with another". He called his Order the "Company of Jesus". In the earliest days, he also called his followers "preti pellegrini".

St Francis of Assisi had a special form of addressing his followers, "Fratelli minori". Why did Francis call his followers by a familial term like "fratello"? What influenced him in choosing this mode of address? Isn't the family a hot-bed of violence and competitiveness? Such was his experience with his own father and even his brother. As a matter of fact, even the Bible casts a light of such destructive competition between brothers and sisters and between a husband and a wife that the use by Francis of the term "brothers" may merit criticism. At best it seems morally ambiguous.

I will cite only a few of many biblical examples. There is the original competitiveness and destructive relationship first between Adam and Eve, and then between Cain and Abel, their sons. Because of envy of his brother, Cain became identified as the first human being to commit murder. Equally competitive, but not leading to fratricide, was the relationship between Esau and Jacob, the sons of Isaac and Rebecca. In the New Testament the competitiveness of two brothers, James and John, prompted their mother to seek from Jesus the promise

of privileged places for them in the coming Kingdom of God. And of course there is the conspiracy between Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee, and his wife Herodias, a divorcee, in alliance with her daughter Salome that led to the execution of John the Baptist for denouncing Herod for marrying a divorced woman.

Today's reading (Num 12: 1-13) offers another biblical example of the competitiveness among children in the same family: Moses, Miriam and Aaron, the children Amran and Jochebed. Miriam and Aaron, it seems, became envious of the leadership of their brother Moses in leading the Hebrew people from Egypt to the promised land in Canaan. They demanded equal status with him as prophets. A destructive conflict among the leadership would have been disastrous for thousands of nomadic people wandering in a wilderness in search of a permanent home among hostile and highly suspicious neighbors. Only God's intervention, according to the reading, saved the exodus from the violence inherent in an envious and competitive family.

It is important to note that St Francis attached another word to the address "fratello". The other word is "minores", lesser brothers. What is the significance of this addition? It made all the difference in the world. For by choosing the phrase, "lesser brothers" to describe his community, he was placing it squarely within the mystery of the kenosis, the self-emptying, of Jesus.

In Francis's time, the people of an Italian city like Assisi were divided into the "majores" and "minores". The upper class was known as "majores" the greater ones; the lower class as "minores", the lesser ones. But it wasn't from this political and economic milieu that Francis took the word "minori". Arnaldo Fortini asserts that it would be "a serious error to think that the new Franciscan movement is a

consequence of the revolt of the minori that came in this period of Assisi history. On the contrary. The new communal society arises... from a desire for commercial expansion it sees in war a means of obtaining it. It opposes the pride of merchants to the pride of the feudal lords.... So, therefore, it was not from the name of a class or faction in the city that Francis took the name 'minori' for his brothers. It was an adjective, used in common significance, one that indicates, even among nobles and religious, the lowest, the inferiors, those who take orders rather than give them".¹

St Francis chose that he and all his followers would be identified with the humble of the earth as "fratelli minori". "Tutti erano uguali nella dignità, nei doveri e nei diritti, come si evince dalla Regola non bollata: 'E nessuno sia chiamato priore, ma tutti siano chiamati semplicemente frati minori'".²

According to his first biographer, Thomas of Celano, being "lesser brothers", for St Francis, meant being "those, being subject to all, [who] always sought a place that was lowly and sought to perform a duty that seemed in some way to be burdensome to them so that they might merit to be founded solidly in true humility and that through their fruitful disposition a spiritual structure of all virtues might arise in them."³

We have a noble example of "being a lesser brother" in an event that took place here in Rivo Torto. The most notable experience of the Holy Spirit in Christian history was lived out in this unprepossessing shelter from rain and sun that is before us. It took place in this cowshed in the year 1209-1210. At one time it belonged to one of the local leprosaria. It was now owned by no one.

After their return from Rome through Orte back to Assisi in the summer of 1209, the small band of brothers needed a place to sleep and pray. Francis chose this hut beside a stream bed, which in the springtime became a dangerous torrent of water. It barely was large enough for the small group of young men. With his usual humor Francis joked that, as a spring-board to heaven, this was better than a palace.⁴ To prevent undue crowding, he assigned each one a place by name on the beam above for sitting and stretching out.

One night a voice of one of the brothers unexpectedly cried out in the darkness, "I'm dying". Everyone was awakened by the startling cry. How did

Francis respond? He could have admonished the man to grow up and face hunger like an adult ascetic should. Or with a certain impatience he may have chosen to tell him to shut up until the dawn so that everyone could get a decent night's sleep for the next day's round of seeking alms.

But Francis responded differently. Rather he realized that being a lesser brother meant to have the gift of love — especially in the awkward darkness of the night. "Francis asked him what was wrong. 'I'm dying of hunger'. Quick, everyone up. Prepare a meal, for the whole company. A brother must not die of hunger, but neither should he be embarrassed by having to eat alone: Francis was always well-bred. It was no doubt an austere midnight supper that broke their fast — crusts, turnips found in the fields, perhaps some eggs.... What else? Water from the stream. Gaiety in lieu of dessert. Francis's charm must have transformed it all into a feast, touched lightly by the fleeting memory of old time".⁵

I conclude by asking you in this Eucharist to reflect upon your own community life while at Assisi. You may wish to assess life within your family at home and community experience here against that measure which Thomas of Celano described as marking the virtues of the first Franciscans here at Rivo Torto. You may wish to ask God to help you to grow in these virtues of Franciscan fraternity. Thomas noted the following virtues of this band of lesser but radically joyful brothers. "No envy, no malice, no rancor, no abusive speech, no suspicion, no bitterness found any place in them; but great concord, continual quiet, thanksgiving, and the voice of praise were in them".⁶

Notes

¹Arnaldo Fortini, *Francis of Assisi*, trans. by Helen Moak, (New York, The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1981), 313.

²Sr M. Crocifisso Nobnis, F1, "La Vita Comunitaria di Fraternità secondo San Francesco", in *Annales Franciscani: Studi di Storia, Teologia e Spiritualità Franciscana*, a cura dei Francescani nell'Immacolata, (Frigento: Casa Mariana, 2007), 480.

³Thomas of Celano, *First Life*, § 38.

⁴Julien Green, *God's Fool: The Life and Times of Francis of Assisi*, trans. by Peter Heinegg, (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1985), 126.

⁵Ibid. 127.

⁶I Cel. 41.

Taken from:

L'Osservatore Romano Weekly Edition in English
12/19 August 2009, page 5